

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 17 October 1950

SUBJECT: Internal Developments in Albania

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1. During the months of July and August 1950 the Shkoder Military Command issued an order for all German, Italian, Serbian (Yugoslav-?), Greek and Turkish arms to be submerged at the junction of the Buena and Drin rivers. Excluded from the order were explosives and fully automatic weapons. This operation, which was carried out under cover of darkness, was performed by 12 selected men who were sworn to secrecy and threatened with death if their secret was revealed.*
2. On 25 August 1950 five Nationalists broke out of the Mirdites Sub-Prefecture prison at Rrshen. Pjeter Kodeli succeeded in escaping but Ndue Shkurt Prenga and Marka Preng Vorfi were killed.
3. On 18 September 1950 Albanian Government forces clashed at Simon with Albanian Nationalists under the leadership of Gjon Frrok Kurbini of Kryezi. One Nationalist (Mark Lasku of Munge) and three Government soldiers were killed in the clash.
4. Anti-Communists arrested during the month of September 1950 in northern Albania include:
 - a. Nikoll Pjetri
 - b. Gjon Karaqi
 - c. Ndue Llesh Karaqi
 - d. Zef Marka Nikolli
 - e. Gdok (Ndoc-?) Dod Gafa
5. The Albanian Communist Party is campaigning for and for North Korea and is exerting pressure to recruit "volunteers" to go to Korea.**

25X1A [REDACTED] Comment: The reason for this unusual action is not clear. An attempt is being made to learn if the weapons in question were military stocks, or arms which had been confiscated from the civilian population; whether or not they were "submerged" with a view to their destruction or waterproofed with the intention of having them available as a secret arms cache; what explanation, if any, was given to those participating in this operation; and what quantity of arms was involved. An effort is also being made to learn if any similar actions have been carried out elsewhere in the country, if any

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orders have recently been issued for the surrender by civilians of privately-owned weapons, and whether the armament of the Shkoder Military Command is now completely standardized with Soviet equipment.

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